

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 6, 8 and 10 remain pending.

On review it was discovered that "noble metal" was misspelled as 'novel metal' throughout the original specification and claims. The specification has been revised above to correct this typographical error. Likewise, independent claims 1, 4 and 8 now correctly refer to the chip as including a noble metal. No new matter has been added by this amendment as it would be immediately apparent to the skilled artisan that "noble metal" was intended in the original text and claims.

Claim 1 has also been amended above to delete the phrase "on a side of said one end of said tubular housing" for clarity because the now deleted phrase was unclear and it was not required to distinguish the invention from the applied art. Claims 4 and 8 have similarly been amended.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 5 and 8 contain allowable subject matter. The allowable limitations of claim 5 have been incorporated into an amended claim 4 and claim 5 has been canceled. Furthermore, claim 8 has been presented in independent form and should therefore be allowed.

Claim 9 was rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Katoh. Further, claims 4, 6, 7, 9, and 10-14 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Gotou. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections. However, to advance prosecution, the allowable limitations of claim 5 have been incorporated into an amended claim 4 and claim 8 has been presented in independent form. Further, claims 7, 9 and 11-14 have been canceled without prejudice to advance prosecution. It is


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therefore respectfully submitted that the Examiner's prior art rejections have been mooted.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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